

*A1  
concl'd*

sample reacts to form an optically detectable reaction product [is disposed in said optical reading chamber].

*A2*

15. (once amended) The article of claim 13, wherein said optical reading chamber contains at least one reagent with which the analyte in the sample reacts to form an optically detectable reaction product [is disposed in said optical reading chamber].

#### IN THE ABSTRACT

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Kindly replace the ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE with the following new ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

#### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An article and a method for monitoring the concentration of glucose in blood. In one aspect, the invention involves an article comprising a multiple-layer element utilizing reagents capable of reacting with an analyte of interest. In a preferred embodiment, the element comprises:

- (a) a core layer having two major surfaces, an optical reading chamber extending from a first opening in one of the two major surfaces to a second opening in the other of the two major surfaces, the core layer further having a third opening therein and a flow channel, one end of which flow channel communicates with the third opening and the other end of which flow channel communicates with the optical reading chamber;
- (b) a base layer in face-to-face contact with one major surface of the core layer; and